

Connecticut General Assembly  
Environment Committee  
February 24, 2016

SB-139

My name is John Chunis. I live at 40 Deerfield Run, Rocky Hill, CT. I am testifying against the following bill:

SB-139 An Act Concerning The Authority of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to Establish a Trout Stamp.

This bill only makes the sport of fishing more expensive for individuals while only raising limited resources in the aggregate for the state. Many people who enjoy the sport of trout fishing are the poor and those on fixed income, unlike the wealthy folks who have boats for deep sea fishing. Implementation of a trout stamp will only make it harder for poor people to enjoy this sport, and in many cases will just close the door on them. Do we really want to do this in our wealthy state. There is no justification for implementing this trout stamp. While there may be organizations who represent the wealthy fishermen in this state, they do not speak for everyone, especially the poor inner city folks who just have a few bucks to spend a day at leisure. The cost of the fishing license is already high. Lets not turn this into a rich mans' only sport.

Please do not pass this bill.